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Letter from Ruby Willis, Wellesley, Massachusetts,
to Dr. and Mrs. William H. Willis, Reading,
Massachusetts, 1907 April 21

Ruby Willis

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Dr. & Mrs. W. H. Willis,

Reading,
Massachusetts.

APR 22

4.30 P

SS

Sunday, Apr. 21. -

My dear ones at home, -

I haven't heard from my beloved family for a week, and I sort of wonder why, but I think perhaps you may have telephoned & not been able to get me. They have put all Wellesley College on one circuit now, and there has been quite a little trouble with the connections this week. I was very glad to hear that mamma had been such a giddy lady lately; I hope it will continue. Also that Papa has engaged Tim; I hope His Royal Highness will not be disagreeable about having Tim in the store.

As for me, I have had a very busy week. Monday I devoted to studying, I haven't done much since. Tuesday

we had a big Student Gov. meeting of 800 or more, I should say. We voted on one or two amendments, & then had a discussion of candidates. At first such a discussion is interesting, but by the time you have heard 6 or 8 people dismissed, all of them, according to the speakers, perfect paragons of virtue, it gets rather tiresome.

Thursday I cut one class & went to Cambridge to spend the day with Marion Eaton. I got over there about twelve o'clock; this week has been her vacation, you know. I like the house they live in very much, & we had an extremely nice luncheon, - grape-fruit, breaded-chops with toasted sweet potatoes, a delicious salad, strawberries & cream, & little cakes, tea & nuts. Don't you

3. think that was a dandy luncheon?
Later in the afternoon we went for a walk; we went over to Radcliffe & went into the only building that was open, Fay House. Everything seemed on a very small scale to me, somehow. Then we walked quite a long way around Cambridge. I came home on the 5:10 train, after a very pleasant time.

Friday we had final Student Gov. elections; the polls closed at 4:15, but we gathered in center about four o'clock, although the result wasn't announced until about quarter of five. I've told you all about it before, I guess; how we gather around Centre, Seniors & Juniors downstairs, Sophomores on second floor, & freshies on third. At last Florence

4. Bessie came to the railing on third floor centre & struck the great chinese gong. "Girls, your president for next year is Betsy Baird," she said, & then everyone shouted. Then she led Betsy forward, Betsy with her arms full of the flowers the class presidents had given her, the senior yellow marguerites, the junior red roses, our cornflowers, & the freshmen pink carnations (of course they don't announce their flower until Tree Day). Meanwhile the juniors were rushing madly upstairs to get Betsy, & we rushed down so to see everything. With Betsy & Florence leading, the juniors marched all around centre, & would have gone outdoors but it

5. was raining. Then Florence & Betsy went up on one of the broad stairs & we had speeches & cheering. My, we cheered everyone, with the college cheer & with the various class cheers, & called for a speech after speech. It was very exciting, I tell you, for the juniors had songs, & we sang & cheered till we couldn't speak. It is customary to have the first atch-singing the night Student Gov. president is elected, but as it rained, we sang in College Hall centre instead. Saturday morning the juniors went in a body to Wilder to escort Betsy to chapel. Both she & Genevieve Pfeifer the junior president carried red roses, & they marched down the

62. hill to chapel singing their class song. Then after chapel we had cheering in college hall center. It's been very exciting, & just think, next year it will be our class that does all this escorting.

Friday was the first 19th of April that I've ever had to go to school, & I think it was sad. Miss Pendleton led chapel in the morning & she made a little patriotic speech, & we sang patriotic songs, so that it would seem like a holiday, I suppose, but it didn't. At noon we anxiously watched for the Marathon runners. I was much amused to see Miss Chapin & Miss Caswell standing watching for the racers, for a long

7. time; they say they haven't missed seeing it for eight years. I imagine it was quite exciting down in the town, for I heard the sound of a band, & there are always crowds of people there to see it, so people say.

Saturday was another busy day; I had classes until 3:10, & then Marion Eaton was out here, with Katherine Scott really, for I was too busy to see her long. I invited her to stay to dinner & go to the Barn, but she telephoned home, & it wasn't going to be convenient for her brother-in-law to meet her at the train, so she couldn't stay. Then Fletcher Robinson had telephoned he was coming out, so he did about 3:30. So I walked him

8. around quite a while, though the wind nearly blew us away. When he went, I was tired enough to stay at home instead of going to the Barn, as I did.

This has been a beautiful day, but still quite cold. I went to Chapel this morning, but that's about all I've been out to-day. I hope it won't be so cold Thursday, for I want to wear my grey suit to the Tech Show. And, oh, mamsie dear, I want to thank you for those beautiful gloves you sent me; I was so surprised and pleased with them! They are such a lovely shade.

Well, Thursday I'm going to the Show, & Saturday I may perhaps go to a play at Radcliffe,

9. if Marion can get a ticket. It is
a play given by the idlers who
correspond to our Barnswallows.
More than these things, I don't
know of anything I'm going to do,
but I rather think I'd better study
a little.

How is Margery getting along at
school now? Tell her to write to
me. I hope to hear from you all
to-morrow. It's late now so
I must stop, & go to bed.
With a great deal of love to all,
from Ruby.